

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 109

BY SENATOR CARTER

A RESOLUTION

To create a task force to study the expenses and the utilization of the New Orleans ferries that connect Orleans, Jefferson, and St. Bernard parishes.

WHEREAS, the New Orleans ferries have traveled across the Mississippi River to Algiers Point since 1827; and

WHEREAS, the Canal Street and Algiers Point ferries are still currently connecting the east and west bank of New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, the New Orleans and Gretna ferries provide access to and from St. Bernard Parish, Gretna, and from the East Bank to the West Bank of New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, the ferry is an alternative form of transportation for the purpose of commuting to work and for those who do not have fast access to the interstate system from New Orleans or Plaquemines Parish; and

WHEREAS, the ferries are a conduit for tourist attractions, commuters, pedestrians, and bicyclists; and

WHEREAS, the flurry of activity around the ferries enhances the adjacent businesses and the local economy; and

WHEREAS, the Senate desires a study of the cost of operating the ferries as well as the usage of the ferries by commuters and pedestrians.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby create a task force to study the cost of expenses and the utilization of the New Orleans ferries that connect Orleans, Jefferson, and St. Bernard parishes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be comprised of the following members:

- (1) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works or his designee, who shall serve as chairman of the task force.
- (2) Two members appointed by the senator for Senate District 7.
- (3) The congressman for the Louisiana Second Congressional District or his designee.

- (4) The secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development or his designee.
- (5) The chief executive officer of the New Orleans Regional Transit Authority or his designee.
- (6) The member who represents District C of the New Orleans City Council or his designee.
- (7) The president of St. Bernard Parish or his designee.
- (8) The mayor of Gretna or his designee.
- (9) The executive director of the Algiers Economic Development Foundation or his designee.
- (10) The president of the Algiers Development District or his designee.
- (11) The president of the Algiers Point Neighborhood Association or his designee.
- (12) The president of the New Orleans Neighborhoods Association or his designee.
- (13) A member of the Westbank Business and Industry Association or his designee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force shall serve without compensation except per diem or expenses reimbursement to which they may be individually certified as members of the constituent organizations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a majority of the total membership shall constitute a quorum of the task force and that any official action shall require an affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum present and voting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the names of the members chosen, designated, or elected as provided herein shall be submitted to the chairman of the task force by August 1, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall hold its organizational meeting not later than September 1, 2024, on the call of the chair. At the organizational meeting, the task force shall elect any other officers as it finds necessary and shall adopt rules for its own procedure. The task force shall be staffed by the Algiers Development District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall prepare and submit an initial written report of its findings to the legislature no later than March 1, 2025, and shall terminate on March 10, 2026.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE